

RUSSELL TALKS ON FOOD LAW

Congressman Joe J. Russell can always be depended on to say the proper thing at the right time when the occasion demands. A few days ago when the food control bill was up for consideration in the House, Mr. Russell made the following remarks, which are of great interest to his many friends throughout this State, a very large number of whom already have him picked as Governor to lead the Democracy to victory in 1920:

The so-called food-control bill is now pending before a conference committee composed of members of the committee on agriculture of the House and the Senate. I regret that the parliamentary situation was such that I was not permitted to discuss the provisions of this bill, or of the Senate amendments to it, before it was so referred; but as I was not permitted to do so then, I desire now, with the permission of the House, to briefly discuss one of the Senate amendments.

The primary purposes of this bill as applied to food were, as I understand, first, to stimulate and to increase the production of wheat; second, to furnish consumers of wheat and the allied countries food at reasonable prices. There are some who seem to think that the purposes of the bill were, first, to urge farmers to produce large crops of wheat, and second, to penalize them for complying with the request. The first essential recognized and contemplated by the proposed legislation was to encourage next year the production of a large crop. To do that you must all know that the wheat farmers of the country will expect to be assured that they will be able to sell their wheat at a fair or not a remunerative price; that is, at or above the cost of raising it.

I have had some considerable experience as a wheat farmer and know something of the cost of its production. I know that some years ago I have raised and sold wheat as less than \$1 per bushel at a fair profit, but know equally as well that it cannot be done now. The cost of everything that goes into the production of wheat is much higher than a few years ago, and the price of some of them, including land, seed, and labor, have more than doubled in price.

Representative Quinn—Taking into consideration the value of the land, the farmer's implements, and the high overhead charges, what does it cost to raise a bushel of wheat?

Mr. Russell—In my opinion, not less than \$1.75 per bushel. Mr. W. L. Nelson, secretary of the Missouri State Board of Agriculture, has made a careful investigation of the cost of raising the present crop of wheat in that State, and says that it was more than \$1.75 per bushel. In this estimate he values the land at \$75 per acre, while I personally know that a great majority of the land in my district upon which wheat was grown is worth in cash an average of more than \$100 per acre, which, at 6 per cent on the increased valuation of the land above Mr. Nelson's estimate, would increase the cost price of the wheat 10 cents per bushel and thus raise the estimate to \$1.85 per bushel. Some insist that the minimum price fixed by the present bill of \$2 per bushel is unreasonable in amount, and to those who so contend permit me to call their attention to the fact that wheat shipped from my district sold in the St. Louis market on last Saturday at \$2.43 per bushel, and in the face of the passage of this bill, that had already resulted in lowering the market price of wheat throughout the country and in the midst of large deliveries of the present crop of wheat from the South and Southwest.

Representative Bohrer—I would like for my colleague to state from his own knowledge, whether he thinks it has ever cost \$1.75 a bushel to raise wheat?

Mr. Russell—I do, on land worth \$100 to \$125 per acre and at the present high prices of food, feed, labor and all farm machinery.

Representative Smith of Idaho—Are not the farmers being treated fairly when we place in the food bill a minimum price of \$2 a bushel for wheat?

Mr. Russell—Yes, I think so; but we do not know but that provision will be in this bill when it passes the House, and that is the very thing I am now talking about. I believe it ought to be retained, and I hope when the conference committee reports it back to the House that their report will retain the amendment placed in this bill in the Senate, which provides for a minimum price for wheat until the 1st day of July, 1919, at \$2 per bushel. That is the very thing I think ought to be done, and I think it will be unfair and discourage the production of wheat next year unless we have in it some assurance of that kind.

Representative Morgan—I ask the gentleman if he does not believe the men here representing the wheat farmers ought to refuse to vote for the bill unless that provision of \$2 as a minimum price for wheat is retained in the bill?

Mr. Russell—Every man must judge that for himself. As far as I am concerned, I think I will vote for the bill whether that provision is retained in it or not. I have great confidence in the President of the United States, and I believe that he will have something to do with the naming of the price which the farmers will get for their wheat next year, and I hope if this provision is not retained that the President and whoever represents him, either upon the board or individually, in fixing the price of wheat will see that the wheat producers of this country are treated fairly. At the same time I think it is of importance enough that the farmers ought to be protected by the written provisions of this bill.

The farmers are asked by increased efforts to produce a large crop next year, so as to guarantee bread for our own country and her armies, and also for our allies, while fighting to a successful finish this world war, and it is not unreasonable that they should want some assurance if they do so to receive at least within 43 cents per bushel of the present price paid in the open, unrestricted markets of the country. A large crop of

wheat next year we all recognize as a matter of grave importance; but if you expect to successfully encourage the farmers to extraordinary efforts to produce such a crop you must expect to treat them fairly.

I am heartily in favor of this bill as a war measure and recognize it as a necessity in order to protect the American people against exorbitant war prices now paid for food, feed and fuel by the consumers of the country. Flour has this year sold as high as \$17 a barrel, but I am informed this bill, which provides for \$2 per bushel for wheat, should reduce the price of flour to \$10 or \$11 per barrel, which will furnish some relief.

For my part, I am not able to understand how the poor laboring man with a family who has during the last year worked for \$2 per day, as many have done, has been able to pay rent and keep the wolf from the door. My sympathies are always with the man who makes his living by honest toil and who "eats his bread in the sweat of his face." I not only sympathize with him and am anxious to do what I reasonably can for his relief, but I suggest that we begin by crushing the unreasonable profits of the coal barons, the middlemen and the speculators, who have been largely responsible for the increased cost of living of all the consumers of the country, including the farmers. I warn you not to begin your reforms for lower prices by inflicting injustice upon the farmers of the land, by requiring them to produce larger crops and to sell them at unreasonable lower prices, while giving them no relief against exorbitant prices that they must pay for the necessities of life that they must buy.

I am for this bill or any other bill that seems to be necessary to successfully fight, and to speedily win the present war. I am willing to make any reasonable sacrifice myself and willing to vote for any reasonable sacrifices to be borne by the American people that will help us to speedily win the war and bring back to us in the near future the blessings of peace, but I am not willing by solemn legislative act to punish our farmers, to whom we must all look for bread, by requiring them to put forth extraordinary efforts to supply wheat or other food stuffs at prices below the cost of production. I hope the conference committee will approve of and retain in the bill the Senate amendment providing for a minimum price of \$2 per bushel for wheat and that the bill as thus amended will be promptly passed.

A GREAT GATHERING OF FARMERS

The greatest gathering of the "farmer clans" that ever took place in the history of the Corn Belt will convene when the gavel thumps for the "house to come to order" at Sedalia on August 28th—the opening of the day of the big State Convention of the Missouri Farmers' Association which holds its first annual convention at the above place on August 28 and 29. From time out of mind we have read of the big conventions of business men, bankers, lawyers, doctors and what not; so, too, we have heard times without number of "Agricultural meetings" where not a baker's dozen of real farmers were in attendance—but this is the first time that hundreds of Farm Club members will come together of their own volition to discuss the great problems of modern agriculture and to throw down the gauntlet of battle to the speculators and "food hogs" who have for so many weary years put their own price upon the things produced by the farmer's sweat and toil.

And will it not be a "sight for the gods?"—this awakening of the sleeping Hercules of American Agriculture who possesses the dormant strength to become the mightiest economic Titan within the Nation? In days gone by, the Grange sought to give battle to the influences which oppress the farmer and which have robbed farm life of so much of its joy and profit. But it gave up the struggle and has consented ever since to remain merely a splendid social force.

Then in turn the Farmers' Alliance and the "Wheel" tackled this great problem, only to finally disintegrate through misguided leadership. But now a new force has appeared on the scene and beyond the shadow of a doubt it is being led by the longest headed farmers in Missouri—men who expect to profit by the mistakes of other farm organizations—men who are tackling the farmers' problems with cool heads and steady hands, who expect to play the game as the "other fellows" play it and whose slogan is, "Production, Cost and Profit" for the things produced by the farmer. Will they win? Time alone can tell. But certain it is that the great Farm Club movement which is now sweeping Missouri and which has already placed a fighting farm club in over 1000 school districts is "on the way"—and to say the least, it is "something new under the sun." This movement, by the way, should not be confused with the clubs recently organized by the College of Agriculture. On the contrary, it is a movement "of, for and by farmers" and in many counties the organization already numbers more than 1000 members.

The Executive Committee of the Missouri Farmers' Association hereby extend an invitation to every farmer in the State who owns an automobile to plan right now to take a "little vacation trip" to Sedalia on August 28 and 29. Surely every thinking farmer will want to see the Farm Club leaders of Missouri in action in the greatest and most significant farmers' convention ever held in the country. So pile the family in the automobile and hike for Sedalia when the time comes—or if you can't bring your family, bring a few neighbors—for you are certain to have an interesting time. For further information address the Missouri Farmers' Ass'n, Columbia, Mo.

As if President Wilson did not have enough burdens already, Congress is heaping them upon him, by delay in passing the vitally necessary food control bill, and other necessary measures.

A LETTER

Editor Cash-Book:

I see from the papers over the United States the people are talking and, in fact, are organizing home-protection companies to take the place of the men who will be called out for service in other lands. Now, what I want to know as a reader of your paper is, whether or not a true, red-blooded American should feel under any obligation to protect the property of a pro-German against mobs which may later form when a lot of our boys get killed in performing our duty to this Government? These pro-Germans are getting their living in this country, and if their sympathies are with Germany it seems to me they ought to look to the Kaiser to take care of them and their property.

What do you think about it? Please answer by letter or through the columns of your paper.

AMERICAN.

The above letter was received a few days ago from one of our subscribers. It is the first written request that has come to this office for information on this question, but not the first time we have heard the same question, in substance, asked; therefore we shall answer through the columns of the paper.

In the beginning, we want to say that we hope the time will not come when the people of this country will feel called upon to resort to mob law or action to bring about retribution for wrongs either actual or fancied. Few indeed are the cases wherein the action of mobs has been justifiable. There are no doubt some instances where, because of corrupt or inefficient officers and because of unusual delay of punishment by law, mobs have meted out justice. Such action, however, should not be countenanced nor even suggested, because, if allowed to go unchecked, it would destroy all respect for our laws which protect life and property.

The significance of the question asked in this letter is deeper than the plain question itself. We are personally acquainted with the author and know that he is a law-abiding citizen. We know that he is unduly exercised over a condition that should not exist. Under ordinary conditions he would be among the last men in our list of acquaintances that would be thinking about the obligation of a citizen, for the duties and obligations of good citizenship are inseparably linked with his character; but these are unusual times and conditions. Our country has been challenged to defend our rights, and have sent thousands of the young men of this country across the ocean to defend with their lives our rights and our freedom. The author of this letter has two sons who heard their country's call and answered by offering their services. Is it any wonder that when he on the one hand sees those who to him are dearer than life itself offering their all to their country, that the liberties we now enjoy might be made safe for future generations, and on the other hand he sees cowards and ingrates and slackers who, while claiming citizenship in this country, are not only unwilling to make any sacrifices for it but indicate by word and action that their sympathies are with our enemy who would destroy these liberties and substitute the mailed fist—that he asks the question whether the property of such a pretended citizen should be protected by a true citizen or not?

To the question of the obligation of a "red-blooded American" towards such a citizen we unhesitatingly say no. No citizen who is loyal to his country will help protect the property or shield from the law a traitor. A man who claims to be a citizen of this country and is for Germany in this war is nothing short of a traitor and should be dealt with as such. His property can and will be taken by the Government if it is proven that he is in any way giving aid or comfort to the enemy. If our subscriber has any substantial information against any such citizen or citizens he should make it known to any man who is employed by the Government. They are required to report to the proper officials any such information. We advise this knowing full well that there are many cases where a hyphenate stays within legal bounds, yet by his conduct shows that his sympathies are not with this country. Such an individual is really more reprehensible than the outspoken enemy, who at least cannot be charged with pharisaism and cowardice. A secret enemy is always more to be feared than an open enemy. He is more dangerous to our country, and should, when found out, be given the punishment that in army circles is given before sunrise. However, we have courts, and will perhaps in the near future have military councils that will be vested with full authority to handle all such cases, and it should be left to them to pronounce the penalty.

The above letter, with comment, was taken from the Jackson Cash Book, and is published in full because it represents so nearly the position of The Times management on a question that is often being thought, even if not expressed, during these times.

The only kind of a separate peace that the Allies will consent to is the kind that would separate the Dachs-bund from his bone.

The way in which we dug up the Liberty Loan and the Red Cross fund simply convinces Germany that the United States is a nation of money diggers.

Summer Complaint.

During the hot weather of the summer months some member of almost every family is likely to be troubled with an unnatural looseness of the bowels, and it is of the greatest importance that this be treated promptly, which can only be done when the medicine is kept at hand. Mrs. F. F. Scott, Scottville, N. Y., states, "I first used Chamberlain's Colic and Diarrhoea Remedy as much as five years ago. At that time I had a severe attack of summer complaint and was suffering intense pain. One dose relieved me. Other members of my family have since used it with like results."—Obtainable everywhere.

NORMAL IS "HARD UP"

The editor of the Weekly Independent, on Thursday last, received a letter from the Missouri State Normal, Cape Girardeau, Mo., with a check for \$1.00 enclosed to apply to subscription. The letter was signed by Louis Houck, who devoted 37 lines, about 360 words, explaining why the newspapers published in this district would not receive a remittance (of the paltry sum of \$3.00 each) which has heretofore been annually sent in each county to pay for a small advertisement of the Normal. The excuse given on is that interest had to be paid on account of teachers' salaries from January to May, 1917; insurance rates have increased; repairs had to be made on the heating plant; and other expenses to maintain the institution have caused "financial distress that now embarrasses the Missouri State Normal School."

We venture the assertion that the salaries of the teachers were not in the least disturbed, and the amount formerly paid the newspapers in the district is but a small amount of which the Board of Regents could save if they would only apply business methods to that institution. A thorough sifting of affairs would be a good thing for the taxpayers. The dismissal of a number of teachers would also be in order. Also the discontinuance of the teaching of "higher criticism," attacks upon the Bible now being made by teachers in that school, would be a good thing. Christian parents would then feel better when sending their children to the State Normal, or placing them under a teacher in the rural school who was taught by teachers in the Normal and University to disregard the Bible as the Word of God. The day is not far distant when schools of this kind will find their appropriations cut much more than they were by the recent Legislature. The State Normal of Cape Girardeau is getting what it deserves.—Potosi Independent.

MOOTHART BUSINESS COLLEGE OPENS SOON

The fall term of the Moothart Business College begins September 10 in the new Botts building, North Main street. It will be modern in all its appointments, and the entire second floor of the building has been leased for a term of two years.

Mr. Moothart, who comes to Miami from Farmington, has had 18 years experience in the work. He has developed some of the best business men in Missouri at that time, while graduates of the Moothart College are scattered throughout the land.

His most recent success has been in the conduct of a chain of schools from his Farmington home. He is a man with nation-wide reputation in his chosen profession, but rather modest in his claims, though his Missouri friends are unflinching in their praise of his work.

Mr. Moothart was elected to the Legislature from his county last fall, where he made an excellent name as a legislator. He is a church worker, a member of several fraternal orders, has a wife two sons and a daughter. He will move his family to Miami as soon as he can secure a house.

The Moothart Business College will teach all subjects that are taught in the largest and best schools of the country, and all graduates of his college will be qualified to fill the most responsible positions as clerks, cashiers, bookkeepers, typists and stenographers.—Miami (Okla.) Record-Herald.

SOUTHEAST MISSOURI LIVESTOCK MEN'S CONVENTION AT FARMINGTON

Southeast Missouri livestock men are called to meet at Farmington, August 23-25. The purpose of this meeting is to afford an opportunity for the discussion of problems confronting the livestock men of this section, and the ways and means of increasing and improving livestock in Southeast Missouri.

A splendid program has been arranged and a tour of St. Francis county on the last day of the Convention has been planned by the County Farm Bureau and the County Hereford Breeders' Association. This tour will furnish a free automobile trip for the visitor over the good rock roads of the county and a visit to all of the purebred stock farms.

Incidentally, a chautauqua program will be in session at Farmington during the same week, and there will be no night programs of the Convention so that the visitors may attend the Chautauqua if they wish.

The Convention is held under the auspices of the Missouri Live Stock Producers' Association. For program and further information write S. T. Simpson, Secretary, Columbia, Mo., or A. I. Ford, County Agent, Farmington, Mo.

STUDENTS RECEIVE TRAINING IN SOIL MANAGEMENT

A knowledge of soil management is fundamental to the highest success in producing crops. The man who has farmed all his life knows a great deal about this subject but new things are constantly being discovered by the experiment stations. The University of Missouri College of Agriculture is now offering a course in soil management which is decidedly practical in training men in the practice of handling soils. It covers thoroughly the discoveries in soil science and the application of these discoveries is the work of the farmer. It is just such an application of science to farm practice that has enabled the German people to hold out so long against the allied blockade. The United States should not be unmindful of the importance of these matters if the war is to be won.

Stomach and Liver Troubles.

No end of misery and actual suffering is caused by disorders of the stomach and liver, and may be avoided by the use of Chamberlain's Tablets. Give them a trial. They only cost a quarter.—Obtainable everywhere.

ORDER EARLY

For your good, as well as ours, we will hereafter not accept meat orders for delivery after 11 o'clock in the morning and 5 o'clock in the afternoon.

You must get your meat orders in early, especially for roasts, else we cannot make the delivery.

We appreciate your patronage, and in order to render to you the best possible service, we are adopting this "better way".

Yours to please.

Autsen's Meat Market

PHONE 53

Oldfield and DePalma to Race at St. Louis, Aug. 11



Barney Oldfield, veteran of the motor racing world, and Ralph DePalma, idol of the speedways, have been matched for three races at the Maxwellton track at St. Louis, to be run Saturday, Aug. 11. These matches are to decide the world's mile dirt track championship and are to be at 10 miles, 15 miles and 25 miles, the three to be run no matter who wins the first two. The meet will also be featured by loop-the-loop and upside down flying by one of the world's greatest aviators.

Oldfield and DePalma have been racing the country over for seventeen and twelve years, respectively, and are unquestionably the two greatest pilots of modern juggernauts. The rivalry between the two has been growing year after year until now it is the most intense existing between two champions. They have never met until this year and the score is now a bit in favor of DePalma.

DePalma will drive a Packard Twin Six, equipped with an aeroplane motor upon which the Packard company has spent \$300,000 experimenting for the purpose of putting them in aeroplanes for the government. Oldfield will drive his "Golden Bug" submarine special, built after his own designs. Each car has shown better than 115 miles per hour on the speedways and the race at St. Louis is sure to be the most spectacular and thrilling ever arranged.

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